




**Dunn Energy  
Cooperative**

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 



By James Hathaway,  
General Manager

## DEMOCRATIC MEMBER CONTROL

October is co-op month, and that's a good time to reflect on the seven cooperative principles that provide a framework for the cooperative way of doing business. Cooperative Principle #2 addresses Democratic Member Control and it reads:

“Cooperatives are democratic organizations controlled by the members who actively participate in setting their policies and making decisions. Men and women serving as elected representatives are accountable to the membership. In primary cooperatives, members have equal voting rights—one member, one vote—and cooperatives at other levels are organized in a democratic manner.”

Each year, at the cooperative annual meeting, the members of Dunn Energy Cooperative have the opportunity to vote for the members that they wish to have represent them on the cooperative's board of directors. Dunn Energy Cooperative has nine districts and nine board members. Every year three directors are up for election or re-election.

The members who are elected to the board of directors are responsible for setting the policies and making the decisions that guide the cooperative. It's their responsibility to listen to the concerns of other members and present those concerns at board meetings for consideration by the entire board and management. That's what it means to be accountable to the membership. (3264)

This representation is one of the biggest factors that make being a member of a cooperative business special. No other form of business provides for active participation by its consumers in the policy and decision making process. Equal voting rights are one of the many rights that make the United States a great place to live.

As I said above, October is National Cooperative Month. It's a time when cooperative organizations nationwide join together to celebrate and to thank their members. Along with other area cooperatives, Dunn Energy will again be sponsoring a co-op breakfast on Saturday, October 28, to express our appreciation to our members. The only reason Dunn Energy exists is to serve you, our members and this is our way of saying thanks to our members for all that they do for their cooperative. Hope to see you on October 28!



Your Dunn Energy Cooperative Board of Directors



# Changes to Co-op Month Celebrations

In order to celebrate National Cooperative Month in October to the fullest extent, we will be hosting the Cooperative Breakfast on **October 28** – the last Saturday of the month instead of the first Saturday of the Month.

We will also be adding a new feature to the breakfast—a Cooperative Passport! If you clip the passport out of next month’s newsletter that’s stuffed in with your bill (or available online) and stop at all participating co-op locations for a stamp, you’ll be put in a drawing for some great prizes! More information on the passport program will be in your October newsletter.

## REGISTRATION FOR GRAND PRIZES

Present coupon to each sponsored cooperative or booth on right. Each sponsor will mark your card. Complete the form, and return to drawing box at the Cooperative Breakfast for your chance to win!

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

*Need not be present to win. Prizes not redeemable for cash. One submission per person, age 18 and older. Must be submitted in person.*

Dunn Energy Cooperative



Royal Credit Union



Synergy Cooperative



WESTconsin Credit Union



West Wisconsin Telcom



Every year we ask members to bring canned goods to the Cooperative Breakfast as a free will donation to the Stepping Stones food pantry. We are extending our collection efforts to the entire month of October leading up to the breakfast! So, when you stop in to get your passport stamped, we’ll gladly take any non-perishable food donations you’d like to make.

**CO-OPS  
COMMIT**  
To Community

October is Cooperative Month! *Come and celebrate the power of cooperatives!*

Co-op Month 2017

**CO-OPS  
COMMIT**

to Community  
to Members  
to Impact  
to Education  
to Kindness

21st Annual

# Cooperative

Free **BREAKFAST**

**Saturday, October 28**  
**8 a.m. to 11 a.m.**

**Dunn Energy Cooperative | Menomonie**

*Join us!* Enjoy Dad's Belgian waffles with butter, your choice of syrup and whipped topping, sausage links, coffee, cold milk and juice

**COOPERATIVE DISPLAYS**

**KID'S ACTIVITIES | FACE PAINTING**

*New!* Look for your passport from any Cooperative listed below, return it at the breakfast to be entered to win prizes!

Please bring a nonperishable or cash donation for Stepping Stones of Dunn County Food Pantry.





## EMERGENCY POWER PLANNING: Back-up power for medical devices and more

For most people, an outage is a nuisance. For some folks, however, an outage can be paralyzing or even deadly if they rely on medical devices that need electricity to function. If severe weather or a nearby accident were to happen, do you have an emergency plan?

You should talk with family and friends about what you would do in an emergency. Do you have an alternative place to stay? Is there an emergency shelter in your area? If you use electricity and battery-dependent assistive technology or medical devices, there are some basic steps you should take to ensure your safety:

- Create a plan for an alternate source of power.
- Read the instructions for the equipment you use and talk to suppliers about your back-up options.
- Regularly check your back-up equipment (batteries, spares, etc.) to ensure it is working properly.
- Teach people (a lot of them!) how to use your back-up system.
- Label your equipment with your name, address, phone number, and simple instructions.
- If you use a ventilator, make sure to keep a resuscitation bag in your emergency kit. (1540)
- Establish a support team; build a system of people who will help you in the event of an emergency.

For the majority of people, an outage is simply an irritation. There are steps you can take to ease the stress of the situation:

- If you have a cell phone, make sure your portable/car charger works.
- Have extra batteries for flashlights on hand.
- If your basement has a tendency to take on water, consider purchasing a sump pump with battery backup.
- Consider buying an inverter that plugs into your car charger for any electronics you might need to charge that aren't car charger compatible.
- In the event of bad weather, pour yourself a couple of pitchers or jugs of water as soon as the storm starts; this can be used for drinking and toilet flushing later on.
- Remember, if you don't open the fridge it will hold its temperature for two to four hours.
- If you can't live without power, consider investing in a generator. If you do this, you must learn to use it safely, for the safety of you and your family as well as the linemen who will be restoring power.

Dunn Energy Cooperative cares about the health and safety of our members. We encourage you to do the same and have an emergency plan in place. If you have questions, feel free to call us at the office at 715-232-6240.—*Jolene Neisius*

### James Hathaway, Manager

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### Jolene Neisius, Editor



"Energy Through Excellence"

## Dunn Energy Cooperative

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## GENERATOR SAFETY TIPS



**N**ever connect a standby generator into your home's electrical system. There are only two safe ways to connect a standby generator to your equipment.

### Stationary Generator:

An approved generator transfer switch, which keeps your house circuits separate from the electric co-op, should be installed by a professional.

### Portable Generator:

Plug appliances directly into the outlet provided on the generator.

Set up and run your generator in a well-ventilated area outside the home. Make sure it's out and away from your garage, doors, windows and vents. The carbon monoxide generated is deadly.

Use a heavy-duty extension cord to connect electric appliances to the outlet on the generator.

Start the generator first before connecting appliances.

Source: [SafeElectricity.org](http://SafeElectricity.org)

## \$\$ FOR HIDDEN ACCOUNT NUMBERS

If your account number is one of the two hidden account numbers in this issue, it will mean \$10 credit on your account if you call the office before the end of the month. Two customer account numbers have been randomly selected and are hidden in the Dunn Energy Cooperative section of this *Wisconsin Energy Cooperative News*. Last month's winners were Amy and Cory Gruenhagen and Ronald Booten.